

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 16572 301710Z
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13
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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8530
INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 16572

VIENNA FOR USIAEA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MNUC, PARM, ENRG, BE, EEC
SUBJECT: CONVENTION ON PHYSICAL PROTECTION OF
NUCLEAR MATERIALS

REF: STATE 203582

1. WE RAISED POINTS PROVIDED REFTEL WITH SIMONE
HERPELS, DIRECTOR FOR NUCLEAR MATTERS AT THE FOREIGN
MINISTRY. REGARDING DOMESTIC APPLICATION OF THE
CONVENTION (BRACKETED ARTICLE 3) MS. HERPELS SAID
THAT THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT WAS FULLY IN AGREEMENT WITH
THE U.S. ON THE IMPORTANCE OF MOVING FORWARD TO CONCLUDE
A CONVENTION WHICH WILL COVER AT LEAST INTERNATIONAL
TRANSPORT, THE AREA WHERE IMPROVED AND STANDARDIZED
SECURITY MEASURES ARE MOST NEEDED. BELGIUM SEES LITTLE
POSSIBILITY OF A CONSENSUS EMERGING ON DOMESTIC APPLI-
CATION AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING AND THUS FAVORS DELETING
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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 16572 301710Z

THE BRACKETED ARTICLE.

2. ON MILITARY PURPOSE NUCLEAR MATERIAL, MS. HERPELS
INDICATED GENERAL UNDERSTANDING OF U.S. CONCERNS, THE
LOGIC OF EXCLUDING MILITARY USE MATERIAL FROM THE
CONVENTION AND THE U.S. WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER
APPROPRIATE PREAMBULAR LANGUAGE. SHE SAID, HOWEVER,

THAT BELGIUM HAS NO SPECIFIC POSITION TO ADVANCE
OR DEFEND IN THIS AREA AND WILL GO ALONG WITH
WHATEVER CONSENSUS DEVELOPS AMONG THE OTHER PARTIES.

3. AS DISCUSSION CLOSED, MS. HERPELS REFERRED TO
BELGIAN INTEREST IN TEXTUAL CHANGES (E.G. "THE PARTIES"
VICE "THE STATES PARTIES" WHICH WOULD BE CONSISTENT
WITH EVENTUAL EC COMMISSION SIGNATURE OF THE TREATY,
A POSSIBILITY WHICH HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE COURT
OF JUSTICE IN LUXEMBOURG FOR A RULING. (APPARENTLY,
THE BELGIANS RAISED THESE DESIRED CHANGES AT THE
LAST MEETING.) MS. HERPELS INDICATED THAT BELGIUM
BELIEVES THAT THE COMMISSION HAS THE COMPETENCE TO
ENTER INTO SUCH AN AGREEMENT AND THAT IT WOULD BE
APPROPRIATE TO HAVE THE COMMISSION, AS WELL AS THE
INDIVIDUAL EC NATIONS SIGN, IN VIEW OF THE MULTILATERAL
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN THE ENERGY FIELD. CHAMBERS

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